

Office of the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

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Washington State Department of Social and Health Services



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Message from the Director

Eric Raff, Director ODHH

Guiding principles identified in the ODHH strategic plan show our values and philosophy including empowerment and partnerships with our stakeholders.

Of these principles, two come to mind:

- Empower clients to achieve independence
- Encourage collaborative partnerships

The communities we serve are important to us. We rely on them to identify inaccessibility issues and advocate for progress toward accessible equality. The role of ODHH is to inform and empower the communities and encourage partnerships.

Progress toward accessible equality is a slow struggle. Progress is much easier with empowered communities to take an active voice to improve accessible programs and services through policy. Policy can be influenced through board and committee meetings.

ODHH really needs your support in our advocacy efforts. We rely on the communities we serve to get involved and support the mission of various boards overseeing organizations providing services to people with disabilities. By getting involved, this ensures that the voice representing perspectives of people with hearing loss or speech disabilities is heard.

Learning about disabilities brings an awareness and sensitivity to the needs of others. At the same time, we educate others about the needs of deaf, hard of hearing, deafblind and speech disabled. Partnership opportunities serve to strengthen disability rights and promote equal access.

There are many ways to get involved, depending on your interests, availability and commitment. You can get involved on a state-wide level such as the Governor-appointed boards, DSHS-related

boards including the ODHHS Advisory Committee and statewide nonprofit organizations. Or you can get involved on a local level such as local government and nonprofit boards.

In this newsletter, you will find some resources to join various boards including the Governor-appointed Boards & Commissions, ODHHS and Regional Service Centers. It is my sincere hope that you will find the time, commitment and vested interest to join a board or two for our progress toward accessible equality.

Resources

Governor-appointed boards

For more information about governor-appointed boards, go to this website: <http://www.governor.wa.gov/actions/appointments/boards/>
The website includes information such as:

- number of appointments by Governor
- opening in year
- Length of term in years
- Qualifications to join the board
- A listing of current members on website

Some boards with the authorizing source have been identified that you may want to be aware of or join.

Deaf, State School for the;
Board of Trustees
RCW 72.42.021

Serves educational needs of hearing-impaired students from throughout the state. Develops comprehensive curriculum to maximize and develop students' skills to live, work and be capable, contributing, independent citizens.

Disability Issues and Employment,
Governor's Committee on
Executive Order 87-08

Advises Governor and Legislature on disability issues; generates local action; initiates projects to address specific issues; provides training and assistance to individuals and organizations statewide; conducts workshops and conferences; and publishes disability-related materials.

Human Rights Commission
RCW 49.60.050

Works to eliminate and prevent discrimination in employment and business practices based on race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age or mental or physical handicap.

Independent Living Council
Executive Order 04-05

Develop, sign and submit the State Plan for Independent Living jointly with DSHS and Health Services Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Dept of Services for the Blind. Monitor, review and evaluate the implementation of the State Plan. Coordinate activities with the State Rehabilitation Council, the State Rehabilitation Council for the Blind, and other councils that address the needs of disability population.

Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities
and Their Families, State Interagency
Coordinating Council for
Executive Order 01-04

Advises and assists the Department of Social and Health Services and participating state agencies to coordinate, develop and implement policies dealing with early-intervention services.

Rehabilitation Council, State
Executive Order 04-04

To review, analyze, and advise the general vocational rehabilitation program of responsibilities under the Rehabilitation Act. In partnership with the general vocational rehabilitation program, develop, agree to, and review the preparation of the state plan, the strategic plan, reports, needs assessments, and evaluations. To conduct a review and analysis of consumer satisfaction as outlined in the Rehabilitation Act. To prepare and submit an annual report to the Governor, the public, and appropriate state and federal interested parties. Coordinate with other councils as specified by the Rehabilitation Act. Advise and provide coordination between the general vocational rehabilitation program and the State Independent Living Council and independent living centers.

Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind Nonprofit Organizations

Washington State Association of the Deaf (WSAD)
3427 W. 7th Avenue
Spokane, WA 99224

Hearing Loss Association of Washington (HLA of WA)
P.O. Box 4025
Kent, WA 98089-0525

Washington State Deaf-Blind Citizens
(WSDBC)

P.O. Box 2322

Seattle, WA 98111-2322

Deaf-Blind Service Center
(DBSC)

1620 18th Avenue

Suite 200

Seattle, WA 98122

Helen Keller National Center –

Northwest Region

(NKNC-NW)

1620 18th Avenue

Suite 201

Seattle, WA 98122

Abused Deaf Women Advocacy Services (ADWAS)

8623 Roosevelt Way NE

Seattle, WA 98115

Regional Service Centers on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
(Centers)

See Centers listing on the following page.

Resources On Emergency Preparedness

ODHH has been working with DSHS agencies to be sure DSHS can continue to provide services to DSHS clients after any man-made or natural disaster affecting DSHS programs by providing information to DSHS programs about the communications needs of deaf, deaf-blind and hard of hearing employees and clients affected by the event. ODHH will be releasing more information for future

ODHH Newsletters on the topic. The information provided below is a start.

An organization called the Corporation for National and Community Service has compiled a list of resources that pertain to disaster preparedness, response, management, and recovery. Please be aware that not all of the information is in text form. Movies from the lending library likely NOT captioned.

The selected information was forwarded through a list-serv by
Tom Hulscher, Washington State Program Director,
Corp. for National & Community Service
Washington State Office
915 Second Avenue, Suite 3190
Seattle, WA 98174
Ph: 206-220-7737
e-mail: thulsche@cns.gov

From The Resource Center's lending library:

Disaster Recovery Planning for Nonprofits (R3158) Offers advice to help nonprofits plan for natural disasters, equipment failures, terrorist attacks, thefts, scandals, and other emergencies. Explains components of a disaster plan and lays the framework for plan development. Intended to be used as a starting point in the creating and implementing process. Includes appendices with disaster recovery planning resources and a bibliography.

[http://nationalserviceresources.org/nsrclibrary/
?action=detail&item=R3158](http://nationalserviceresources.org/nsrclibrary/?action=detail&item=R3158)

First 72 Hours: A Community Approach to Disaster Preparedness (R3164) An anthology that includes the perspectives of doctors, business managers, firefighters, American Red Cross volunteers, and members of the media to name a few, who all came together

after September 11, 2001 to design more disaster-resilient communities. Offers updated strategies to improve disaster preparedness, particularly in light of the threat of terrorism. Intended for professionals and private citizens who want to know what kinds of questions must be asked and answered to better prepare their communities to survive future disasters.

[http://nationalserviceresources.org/nsrclibrary/
?action=detail&item=R3164](http://nationalserviceresources.org/nsrclibrary/?action=detail&item=R3164)

Condition Red: Prepared for Disaster (V3163) Contains valuable information for individuals, families, law enforcement officials, and emergency aid centers on what it takes to be prepared for disasters. Covers different types of disasters, how certain disasters could hinder government and emergency services from giving immediate help to everyone in need, the importance of having a plan specifically for the disasters most likely to occur in your area, and what to include in a disaster kit. Stresses the importance of preparation and empowerment in regards to knowing how to take care of yourself instead of relying solely on the government and emergency services.

[http://nationalserviceresources.org/nsrclibrary/
?action=detail&item=V3163](http://nationalserviceresources.org/nsrclibrary/?action=detail&item=V3163)

Disasters: Wrath of Disasters (V3167)

Includes five movies that focus on disaster recovery for earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and tornados. Shows footage of each disaster to demonstrate what can happen to those who are unprepared and to emphasize the need for planning. The final movie is a before-and-after lesson, giving coverage of an earthquake and then continuing up to one year after the disaster, allowing a view of the recovery process.

[http://nationalserviceresources.org/nsrclibrary/
?action=detail&item=V3167](http://nationalserviceresources.org/nsrclibrary/?action=detail&item=V3167)

Principles of Emergency Planning and Management (R2804) Comprehensive practical guide enabling planners and managers to design and implement effective disaster preparation and initial recovery plans. An all-hazards approach is considered, with specific references to actual plans and management problems. Emphasizes the creation of an evolving plan that remains functional through continued testing and revision. Can be integrated with emergency preparedness training courses.

[http://nationalserviceresources.org/nsrclibrary/
?action=detail&item=R2804](http://nationalserviceresources.org/nsrclibrary/?action=detail&item=R2804)

Introduction to Emergency Management (R2805) Reference book containing case studies of disaster response planning and disaster mitigation. Outlines historic and current organization of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Federal Response Plan (FRP). Describes the roles, responsibilities, and inter-relationships between FEMA, FRP, and state and local emergency management systems. Includes glossary, list of emergency management websites, and directory of emergency management agencies in the United States.

[http://nationalserviceresources.org/nsrclibrary/
?action=detail&item=R2805](http://nationalserviceresources.org/nsrclibrary/?action=detail&item=R2805)

From The Resource Center's Effective Practices collection:

Conducting a hurricane response exercise http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/epicenter/practices/index.php?ep_action=view&ep_id=1073

Developing hurricane awareness with a science exercise for students http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/epicenter/practices/index.php?ep_action=view&ep_id=1072

Preparing people with disabilities for evacuation, shelter, and recovery during national emergencies http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/epicenter/practices/index.php?ep_action=view&ep_id=1144

Providing advocacy and support to disaster victims http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/epicenter/practices/index.php?ep_action=view&ep_id=1070

Understanding how victims respond during a disaster http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/epicenter/practices/index.php?ep_action=view&ep_id=1065

Responding to environmental needs after a flood http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/epicenter/practices/index.php?ep_action=view&ep_id=738

Preparing for a national security emergency http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/epicenter/practices/index.php?ep_action=view&ep_id=904

Understanding the role of staff during disaster employment and recovery http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/epicenter/practices/index.php?ep_action=view&ep_id=1039

Please feel free to contact the person named below for any material requests or questions.

Erica Marsh - Resource Center Specialist, The Resource Center
(800) 860-2684, ext. 260

rc-library@etr.org OR <http://www.nationalservice.gov/resources>

New Staff Member, Claudia Foy

The Office of the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing welcomes Claudia Foy as the new Manager of the Social and Human Services Program. Herself Deaf, she has twenty years of experience in providing and managing social and human services as well as telecommunications relay services. She was previously employed in one of the Regional Centers in North Carolina and by the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing before coming to ODHH. She also taught American Sign Language at two local community colleges in the Phoenix, Arizona area. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from the Arizona State University and a Master of Arts in Rehabilitation Counseling: Deafness from the University of Arizona. Claudia is an active member of the National Association of the Deaf Technology Committee

While passionate about her work, Claudia also enjoys spending quality time with family and friends. Other than being a nifty knitter, she enjoys water sports and hopes to learn to kayak.

“I enjoy providing management and leadership that enhances accessibility of the deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind consumers to an improved quality of life,” she said. “I can truthfully say I see myself in the same position for years to come.”

New Program Support Specialist for ODHH

Hello, my name is Ausha V. Potts and I am the new Program Support Specialist with the Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I started in October 2006. In this position I will be providing support services to the Social and Human Services (SHS), Sign Language Interpreter Management (SLIM), and Information, Referral and Advocacy (IRA) Program Managers.

I have worked with Deaf and HOH advocates, interpreters and community members within Pierce, Thurston, Kitsap, Mason and Grays Harbor counties for over 11 years in my previous employment with a local community services agency in Tacoma.

In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my 2 boys, ages 5 and 9. We enjoy motor sports, boxing, and swimming. We also enjoy vacationing together.

I believe in the goals and the mission here at ODHH. I'm excited to be apart of this team in making positive things happen for the community! I'm looking forward to meeting and working with all of you!

New Logo for Washington Relay

Washington Relay now has a brand new logo! The looped "W" design has replaced the glacier-topped mountain and evergreen tree logo design that has been the Washington Relay logo the past several years.

The artist of the original logo concept/design is Matt Daigle, who is deaf. He is a freelance graphic artist/cartoonist, and resides in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

"As a deaf individual and a consumer of relay services, it is a great honor to have my design symbolize communication access for the state of Washington," said Daigle. "The story behind this logo would serve as a good ice breaker, when giving public presentations on the relay service," added Dan Brubaker, Account Manager with Sprint Relay.

The new logo is "picture-concept" of how the relay service works. The arms or ends of the "W" are two users of the relay service... and their conversations go through a relay operator, as represented inside the box. The dots between the arms or ends of the

“W” represent an actual conversation between people. The relay operator would keep both parties “in the loop” which also would become the tag line for Washington Relay: “Keeping deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind and speech-disabled in the loop.”

Sprint, the provider of Washington Relay, coordinated the logo contest with the assistance of Bob Lichtenberg, ODHH Assistant Director/Relay Program Manager. They selected 7 members from the deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind communities to serve as the judging panel. For nearly 5 hours, the judging panel went through 78 logo submissions from 39 individuals. The final selected logo was further developed through revisions recommended by an advertising agency in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Eric Raff, ODHH Director, noted “This was an exciting contest where people from Washington had an opportunity to choose a new logo. The winning logo truly symbolizes access to telecommunications for deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind people. ODHH will be proud to use the logo in our efforts to educate the public about relay services throughout Washington State.”

The new Washington Relay logo is owned by the Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (under the auspices of the Department of Social and Health Services), which is the administrator of Washington Relay.

Back Issues of ODHH Community Review

Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing has back issues available for anyone who is interested in receiving them. Please contact ODHH at (800) 422-7930 V/TTY or email ODHH@dshs.wa.gov to let us know which newsletter and how many copies you need. We'll be happy to send you those newsletters.

List of Back Issues:

1. Fall 2004, Volume 1, Number 2
2. Fall 2005, Volume 2, Number 3 –
Regular and Large Print available
3. Summer 2004, Volume 1, Number 1
4. Summer 2005, Volume 2, Number 2
5. Summer 2006, Volume 3, Number 2
6. Winter 2005, Volume 2, Number 1

ODHH Introduces a New Service Provider Covering Grays Harbor, Kitsap, Mason, Pierce & Thurston Counties

Deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind community members living in the Tacoma region can visit the new HSDC-Tacoma regional service center to receive advocacy and information and referral services. The Hearing, Speech, and Deafness Center (HSDC) has hired two qualified community advocates to provide the same types of services previously performed through a contract with ODHH by the Tacoma Area Coalition of Individuals with Disabilities (TACID). HSDC-Tacoma's new advocates are Christine Seymour and Barbara Hathaway. They both have hearing loss and come with a wealth of experience in serving clients and members of the community through previous positions with similar community services agencies in California and Arizona. ODHH encourages people to contact Christine or Barbara if they need advocacy services or other assistance. The new center is located at 3516 South 47th Street, Suite 200, Tacoma, WA 98409.

Contact information to reach Christine and/or Barbara is listed below:

Christine Seymour

Email: cseymour@hsdc.org

VP100: 253-474-1750

D-Link VP: 253-474-1750

TTY: 253-474-1748

Barbara Hathaway

Email: bhathaway@hsdc.org

VP100: 253-474-1749

D-Link VP: 253-474-1749

TTY: 253-474-1748

What is CART?

By Colleen Rozmaryn

Assistive Communications Technology Program Manager

For a person who experiences a mild to moderate hearing loss Assistive Listening Systems (ALDs) can provide a great benefit in many communication situations. Still, there are persons for whom the ALS does not give enough amplification. Often speech comprehension remains difficult. For those individuals, there is a third alternative: Communication Assistance Real-time Translation, called "CART". Some call it "captioning". CART is an assistive accommodation for communication access under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Who Can Do CART/Captioning?

The professionals who provide CART services are Certified Court Reporters – the same people who sit at the front of the courtroom and use a stenographic machine to document the court proceedings. Using the same skills and additional technology like laptop computers and projectors, Court Reporters can produce a captioned (text) version of the court proceedings for you to read. If you have a hearing loss you can request CART so you can participate in a trial, or be part of a jury.

Is CART Only for Courtrooms?

No, absolutely not! CART is a tool for making communication smoother for anyone with hearing loss in many situations. You can request CART/captioning for a doctor appointment. A Court Reporter will type what the doctor is saying and you read the words on the screen of a laptop computer.

Classrooms are using CART to make their classes more accessible. They are especially useful for high school and college courses.

Meetings of local, state and federal offices can be captioned. In those cases the Court Reporter will use a projector and movie screen. People attending the meeting can read the words of presenters and be active participants themselves. It is a good idea to call the office sponsoring the meeting and request that CART services be provided for you. Then call the week before to confirm that you are going, and make sure they have schedule CART services.

ODHH is in the process of building a list of Certified Court Reporters. For now, the information is available through our office (See contact information for Colleen Rozmaryn in this issue.) Later we will have CART information available on our website.

Special Announcement

Deaf-Blind Telecommunications Device Update

By Colleen Rozmaryn, ACT Program Manager

ODHH is proud and delighted to announce a great new milestone in deaf-blind telecommunications technology. On December 7, 2006 ODHH signed a contract with HumanWare, Ltd. of New Zealand to build a new, better braille telecommunication device. HumanWare has been developing and manufacturing braille equipment for blind people for over twenty years. They are an experienced international business, and they're excited about working with Deaf-Blind people.

I learned one interesting thing from the contract negotiations: public-private projects are difficult. Working with the different rules between Washington and HumanWare's private company was awkward. We are all relieved that the contract is finished.

What Happens Next?

In January the real work begins! Engineers from New Zealand will fly to Seattle to meet Deaf individuals who are either fully blind or have low vision. Those Deaf-Blind people will be our "Focus Group," giving input to the engineers.

Our first business will be educating each other. Engineers will take a class on the interpreting process, taking turns and the right way to communicate with a Deaf-Blind person. The Focus Group will learn what to expect of the technical development process. If engineers and Deaf-Blind people are going to be working together, they need to know how to communicate with each other.

The goal for this braille telecommunication device is to empower Deaf-Blind people to take care of their own business, be able to communicate while they are traveling and be independent.

The New Year is going to be an exciting time for this new project to start!

Regional Service Centers for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Office of the Deaf & Hard of Hearing (ODHH)

Eric Raff, Director

P.O. Box 45300

Olympia, WA 98504-5300

Voice/TTY: 360-902-8000

TTY: 360-753-0699

Fax: 360-902-0855

Voice/TTY Toll-free: 800-422-7930

D-Link IP: 209.181.93.249

D-Link VP #: 360-902-8000

VP100 IP address: 209.181.93.251

VP100 #: 360-902-8000

Email: rafferic@dshs.wa.gov

Website: <http://odhh.dshs.wa.gov>

HSDC-Seattle Service Center

Artz Communication Center

1625 19th Avenue

Seattle, WA 98122

Voice: 206-323-5770

TTY: 206-388-1275

Fax: 206-328-6871

Toll-free: 800-761-2821 V/TTY

D-Link #: 206-388-1275

D-Link IP: 207.218.101.229

VP100 #: 206-388-1275

VP100 IP: frontdesk.hsdsc.org

Email: Seattle@hsdc.org

Website: www.hsdsc.org

HSDC-Bellingham Service Center
114 West Magnolia Street, Suite 316
Bellingham, WA 98225
Voice: 360-647-0910
TTY: 360-647-8508
FAX: 360-647-0923
Toll-free: 866-647-0910
D-Link #: 360-647-8508
D-Link IP: 216.57.220.22
VP100 #: 360-647-8508
VP100 IP: bham.hsdhc.org
Email: Bellingham@hsdc.org
Website: www.hsdhc.org

South Eastern WA Service Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- SEWSCDHH
124 North 5th Avenue
Pasco, WA 99301
Voice: 509-543-9644
TTY: 509-543-9649
Fax: 509-543-3329
Toll-free: 888-543-6598
D-Link #: 509-543-9644
D-Link IP: 65.160.146.138
VP100 #: 509-543-9644
VP100 IP: 65.160.146.138
Email: info@sewscdhh.org
Website: www.sewscdhh.org

SEWSCDHH – Yakima Service Center
505 North 4th Street, Unit #5
Yakima, WA 98901
Voice: 509-469-1845
TTY: 509-469-1847
FAX: 509-469-3965
Toll-Free: N/A
D-Link #: 509-469-1845
D-Link IP: 68.185.62.82
VP100/200 #: 509-469-1845
VP100/200 IP: 68.185.62.82
Website: www.sewscdhh.org

Eastern Washington Center for the
Deaf and Hard of Hearing - EWCDHH
N. 1206 Howard Street
Spokane, WA 99201
V/TTY: 509-328-9220
Fax: 509-327-4622
Toll-free: 800-214-3323 V/TTY
D-Link IP: ewcdhh.dyndns.tv
D-Link IP: 71.32.217.81
D-Link VP #: 509-328-9222
VP100 #: 509-328-9222
VP100 IP: ewcdhh.dyndns.tv
Email: ewcdhh@ewcdhh.org
Website: www.ewcdhh.org

Southwest WA Center of the
Deaf and Hard of Hearing - SWCDHH
3015 East Evergreen Boulevard
Vancouver, WA 98661
Voice: 360-695-3364
TTY: 360-695-9720
Fax: 360-695-2706
Toll-free: 866-695-6777
D-Link VP #: N/A
D-Link IP: 66.92.192.105
VP100 #: 360-695-9700
VP100 IP: 66.92.192.105
Email: frontdesk@swcdhh.org
Website: www.swcdhh.org

HSDC-Tacoma Service Center
3516 S. 47th Street, Suite 200
Tacoma, WA 98409
Voice: 253-475-0782
TTY: 253-474-1748
Fax: 253-475-1188
Toll-free: 866-698-1748 V/TTY
D-Link IP: tac-frontdesk.hsdh.org
VP100/200 #: 253-474-1748
V100 IP: tac-frontdesk.hsdh.org
Email: Tacoma@hsdc.org
Website: www.hsdh.org

Office of the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Toll Free: 1 (800) 422-7930 V/TTY

(360) 902-8000 Direct

Web site: <http://odhh.dshs.wa.gov>

Contact ODHH by Video at:

VP IP Address: 209.181.93.249

VP#: (360) 902-8000

Eric Raff, Director rafferic@dshs.wa.gov

Robert Lichtenberg, Assistant Director lichtrw@dshs.wa.gov

Ryan Bondroff, IRA Program Manager.. bondroffryan@dshs.wa.gov

Emily Hill, SLIM Program Manager hillemary@dshs.wa.gov

Steve Peck, TRS Program Manager pecksc@dshs.wa.gov

Kelly Robison, TED Program Manager robiskd@dshs.wa.gov

Colleen Rozmaryn, ACT Program Manager . rozmaic@dshs.wa.gov

Claudia Foy, SHS Program Manager foyclam@dshs.wa.gov

Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
P.O. Box 45301
Olympia, WA 98504

Free Matter
for the Blind
and Physically
Handicapped